

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 8-28 are pending in the present application, claims 27 and 28 having been added herein. The Restriction Requirement has been considered and the following remarks are submitted in response.

The Examiner has restricted the claimed invention to one of six alleged groups of inventions. This requirement is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Applicant has submitted herewith new claims 27 and 28. Claim 27 recites a method for processing a tag comprising encoding the tag and decoding the tag, each according to specific method steps. Claim 28 recites a system for processing a tag comprising an encoder and a decoder, each comprising specific elements. Thus, claims 27 and 28 provide linking claims linking the invention recited in claims 1-6, 17, 18, and 20-26 to the invention recited in claims 12-16 and 19.¹ Applicant respectfully submits that the inclusion of these new claims requires that the Examiner search both the encoder and the decoder. Further, it is noted that the Examiner has indicated that the inventions in groups I and VI are classified in the same class and subclass as one another. Accordingly, for these reasons, it is submitted that examination of both the method of encoding a tag and method a tag would not be unduly burdensome, since they are in the same class and subclass and both must be searched to provide proper examination for new claims 27 and 28. Accordingly, withdrawal

¹ The restriction requirement lists claims 1-6, 17, 18, 20 and 26. Applicant is assuming that the Examiner meant to state claims 20-26. If this is incorrect, a new restriction requirement is respectfully requested.

of the restriction with respect to groups I and VI is respectfully requested.

Nonetheless, and without waving the above remarks, applicant elects for examination in this application, the invention recited in group I.

Applicants have amended claim 12 in the present amendment to correct a typographical error.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement. Examination on the merits of the application is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions he is invited to contact the undersigned at 202-628-5197.

Respectfully submitted,

BROWDY AND NEIMARK, P.L.L.C.
Attorneys for Applicant

By 
Ronni S. Jillions
Registration No. 31,979

RSJ:tbs
Telephone No.: (202) 628-5197
Facsimile No.: (202) 737-3528
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